

b3  
temperature of at least 185°C, preferably at least 200°C and more preferably around 220°C.

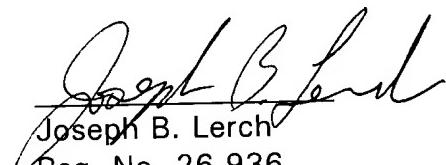
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**R E M A R K S**

The claims have been amended to correct improper multiple dependent claims.

The application has been amended to add an abstract.

Respectfully submitted,



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE



Docket No.: 3463/0J445

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Camille BORER ET AL.

Serial No: 09/910,435

Filed: July 20, 2001

For: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR TREATING PLASTIC MATERIAL

AMENDMENT MARK-UP SHEET FOR PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT  
OF JANUARY 4, 2001

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
Washington DC 20231

In The Claims:

Please rewrite Claims 4-7 to read as follows:

4. (Amended) A device according to [one of the preceding] claims

1 or 2, characterised in that a partition wall (13) is provided below the feed

aperture (14), for deflecting the incoming plastic material by means of a funnel section (13'), so as to deflect the material to a preceding compartment (12'), thus at least partially covering the subsequent compartment (12") by the funnel section (13').

5. (Amended) A device according to [one of the preceding] claims 1 or 2, characterised in that the first compartment (12') takes up more than half, preferably more than 2/3 of the area in top view of the treatment space (12) which is at least approximately rotation-symmetrical, and that this first compartment (12') is followed by a second compartment (12") which is accordingly smaller.

6. (Amended) A device according to [one of the preceding] claims 1 or 2, characterised in that a monitoring arrangement such as an inspection glass (24) is associated with at least one compartment (12"), e.g. the last compartment.

7. (Amended) A device according to [one of the preceding] claims 1 or 2, characterised in that the floor region of the treatment space (12) is the perforated floor (16) of a fluidised bed.

Please rewrite Claims 16 and 17 to read as follows:

16. (Amended) A method according to one of [the preceding] claims 8, 9, 12 or 13, characterised in that precrystallisation and crystallisation are preferably carried out within a duration of 10 to 80 minutes, preferably 15 to 40 minutes, in particular within approx. 20 to 30 minutes.

17. (Amended) A method according to one of [the preceding] claims 8, 9, 12 or 13, characterised in that heating following crystallisation, including precondensation, takes place within a duration of 60 to 120 minutes, in particular approx. 90 minutes.